

MAY 09 2007

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FACSIMILE COVER LETTER

To: Commissioner for Patents
Examiner Joon H. Hwang

Firm: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Art Unit 2166

Facsimile: (571) 273-8300

From: William S. Frommer

Date: May 9, 2007

Re: FLH Ref No.: 450100-02278
Serial No: 09/492,044

Number of Pages: 3
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PATENT
450100-02278IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Gentaro Okayasu, et al. Notice of Allowance
Dated: 04/12/2007

Serial No. : 09/492,044

For : FREE STORAGE SPACE MANAGEMENT APPARATUS
AND METHOD

Filed : January 26, 2000

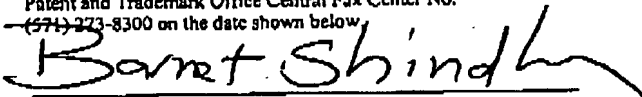
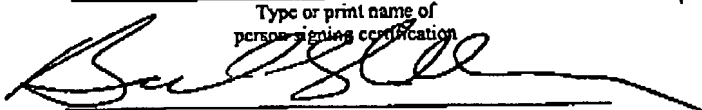
Examiner : Hwang, Joon H.

Art Unit : 2166

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RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

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Sir:

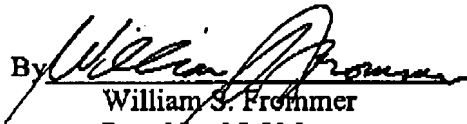
This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which
accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed April 12, 2007. To the extent the Examiner's

PATENT
450100-02278

Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicants' attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicants' contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicants of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicants, by their attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

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